Effect of import of cheaper dairy products on industry

†2867. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the existence of domestic dairy industry is in danger due to import of dairy products at cheaper rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to increase import duty on imported dairy products or formulating any other plan, to save the domestic dairy industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) This Department has not received any report on 'existence of domestic dairy industry in danger due to import of dairy products at cheaper rates'. Moreover the data on import of Milk and Milk products during last three years shows that there is decline in import of milk products during the last three years.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) and (b) above, there is no proposal to increase import duty on imported dairy under consideration of the Government.

NCF recommendation of farmers loans

†2868. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission on farmers has recommended in its report to charge four per cent interest on the loans given to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken a final decision after considering the said recommendation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?